



Montgomery County Council

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"Paths to the Present" Focuses on County Life on the Home Front during World War II

While County residents in our armed forces defended their country and freedom on far-flung European, African, and Pacific battlefields during the Second World War, the folks they left behind on the home front were also profoundly affected by the conflict.

In the second of a two-part series, County Cable's history program "Paths to the Present: Montgomery County Stories" talks to County residents about what they did and what it felt like on that home front.

The program can be seen on County Cable Montgomery, channel 6, through February 9.

War-time restrictions forced everyone to pitch in and do their part just to survive. People felt it was their duty to put up with rationing, to conserve resources, and to donate money towards the war effort. But there were those who went well beyond those activities in order to make things better, safer, or more productive here in Montgomery County.

Through interviews with people who were there, part two of this two part series explores how Montgomery County residents helped entertain troops, protect civilians, and manage the labor shortage during World War II.

Featured are Stella Allison, who played the accordion for USO shows; Albert Brault, Jr., whose father led the Civil Defense effort here in Montgomery County; Tom Canby, who accompanied his mother to spot for enemy airplanes; and Laura Ann Whirley, whose father hired German POWs to help with the work on their family farm.

"Paths to the Present: Montgomery County Stories" is an on-going series highlighting County history, jointly produced by the Montgomery County Council and the Montgomery County Historical Society. Compilations of programs from the series' first two years are available for purchase from the Montgomery County Historical Society.

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